

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 8. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently amended) A method for maintaining accounting data comprising the computer implemented steps of:
 - (a) providing a database for storing desired accounting data;
 - (b) calling, by telephone, a user so as to begin a telephone call to receive certain accounting data to store to the database;
 - (c) using an automated voice interface to the database during the telephone call, for spoken communication by the user, over a communication line, prompting the user to enter said certain accounting data primarily by speaking into a phone connected to the telephone call using natural language speech utterances (i) instead of the user keyboarding (ii) instead of requiring the user to log onto a global network and (iii) in effectively a direct, spoken manner instead of intermediate transfer of data by the user, the voice interface receiving audible signals indicative of words spoken by the user into the phone in response to said prompting;
wherein said prompting includes (i) asking the user to confirm information and/or (ii) prompting for information one data point at a time, such that the step of prompting provides an exchange of information between the user and the database;
 - (d) obtaining from the received audible signals certain accounting data corresponding to the words spoken by the user into the phone;
 - (e) storing the obtained certain accounting data in the database; and
 - (f) serving an individually targeted message to the user through the phone over the communication line, said individually targeted message having contents unrelated to any of status of the telephone call [[or to]] and account status of the telephone call.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the communication line is a wireless or land telephone network.
3. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the automated voice interface is computer implemented.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically providing accounting data stored in the database to another user.
5. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the step of automatically providing includes providing the accounting data as a function of predefined rules.
6. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the desired accounting data includes length of time, dates, project identifier, type of expense, and the database stores desired accounting data in corresponding data fields.
7. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of retrieving or editing accounting data from the database using the automated voice interface.
8. (Currently amended) A method for maintaining accounting data of time and expenses on respective projects, comprising the computer implemented steps of:
 - (a) providing a database for storing desired accounting data;
 - (b) calling, by telephone, a user so as to begin a telephone call and using an automated voice interface to the database during said telephone call, for spoken communication by a user, over a communication line, prompting the user to enter project accounting data to store to the database by speaking into a phone connected to the telephone call using natural language speech utterances instead of (1) the user keyboarding, (2) the user being required to log into a global network and (3) intermediate

transfer of data by the user, the voice interface receiving audible signals indicative of words spoken by the user into the phone in response to said prompting;

wherein said prompting includes at least one of (i) asking the user to confirm information and (ii) prompting for information one data point at a time, such that the step of prompting provides an exchange of information between the user and the database;

(c) obtaining from the received audible signals certain project accounting data to store to the database corresponding to the words spoken by the user into the phone;

(d) storing the obtained certain project accounting data in the database to enable tracking and reporting of time, events and expenses corresponding to the obtained project accounting data; and

(e) serving an individually targeted message to the user over the communication line, the individually targeted message having contents unrelated to any of status of the telephone call and [[/or to]] account status of the telephone call.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the communication line is a wireless or land telephone network.
10. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the automated voice interface is computer implemented.
11. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 8 further comprising the step of automatically providing accounting data stored in the database to another user.
12. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the step of automatically providing includes providing the accounting data as a function of predefined rules.
13. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the desired accounting data includes length of time, dates, project identifier, type of expense, and the database stores desired accounting data in corresponding data fields.

14. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 8 further comprising the step of retrieving or editing accounting data from the database using the automated voice interface.
15. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein if the words spoken by the user into the phone are in one language and the database stores accounting data in another language, then the steps of prompting and storing include translating between the one language and said another language.
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein if the words spoken by the user into the phone are in one language and the database stores accounting data in another language, then the steps of prompting and storing include translating between the one language and said another language.
18. (Cancelled)